

Senate Study Bill 1248 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON FEENSTRA)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the established season for hunting game
2 birds on a preserve, and providing for fees.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 484B.1, subsection 5, Code 2019, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 5. "*Game birds*" means pen-reared birds of the ~~family~~
4 ~~gallinae~~ order galliformes and pen-reared mallard ducks.

5 Sec. 2. Section 484B.10, subsection 1, Code 2019, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 1. a. A person shall not take a game bird or ungulate upon
8 a hunting preserve, by shooting in any manner, except during
9 the established season or as authorized by [section 481A.56](#).
10 The established season shall be September 1 through March 31
11 of the succeeding year, both dates inclusive. The owner of
12 a hunting preserve shall establish the hunting season for
13 nonnative, pen-reared ungulates on the hunting preserve.

14 b. A game bird hunting preserve operator may apply for
15 a variance to extend the season date beyond March 31 for
16 that preserve if the precipitation for the month of January,
17 February, or March of that season is above average for
18 the county in which the preserve is located. The state
19 climatologist established pursuant to section 159.5 shall
20 provide official national weather service and community
21 collaborative rain, hail and snow network data to the
22 department to determine whether a variance to the established
23 season shall be granted. An application for a variance shall
24 be accompanied by a variance fee of twenty-five dollars. The
25 department shall not grant a variance to a game bird preserve
26 that extends the season beyond April 15 of the year for which
27 the variance is requested.

28 EXPLANATION

29 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
30 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

31 This bill relates to the established season for hunting game
32 birds on a preserve.

33 Under current law, a person shall not take a game bird
34 on a hunting preserve except during the established hunting
35 preserve season, which begins on September 1 and ends on March

1 31. The bill allows a game bird hunting preserve operator
2 to apply for a variance to extend the season beyond March
3 31 if the precipitation for the month of January, February,
4 or March of that season is above average for the county in
5 which the preserve is located. The bill requires the state
6 climatologist to provide official national weather service and
7 community collaborative rain, hail and snow network data to the
8 department of natural resources to determine whether a variance
9 to the established season shall be granted. The bill requires
10 the operator to pay a \$25 fee when applying for a variance. The
11 bill prohibits the department from granting a variance that
12 extends the season beyond April 15 of the year for which the
13 variance is requested.
14 The bill also makes a change to the definition of "game bird"
15 to reflect a recent reorganization of bird classification.